Whitney Rick Research and Promotion, Cotton Program AMS/USDA Stop 0224 1400 Independence Ave. SW Washington, DC 20250-0224

Docket number (CN-01-002), March 26,2001, page number 16440 and 16441 of the Federal Register, volume 66.

Dear Ms Rick

This letter is in support of the Cotton Research and Promotion Program as conducted by Cotton Incorporated and the Cotton Board.

Cotton research and promotion is needed now more than ever with the tough times that cotton producers face with low prices.

Not only producers but ginners, manufacturers and almost all segments of the industry find themselves in a struggle to survive.

There are many reasons for this including the strong US dollar, an abundance of cotton worldwide and strong competition from man made fibers.

At this time cotton producers like myself find the Research and Promotion Program one of the few bright spots in our industry.

